Application No.: 09/543,962

REMARKS

Claims 1-37 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 2, 19, 20, 28 and 29 have been amended.

Claims 1-37 were rejected under 35 USC §112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter not described in the specification: "periodically polling the meta-document for document service requests". Support for the language "periodically polling" can be found in the specification on page 12, lines 8-9: "From that moment, the document soul coordinator/scheduler begins to periodically poll the document."

Support for the language "analyzing the document for document content information contained within the document to be exploited by the selected document service to obtain other information from a service provider pertaining to the document's content information" can be found in the specification on page 23, lines 5-7.

Claims 1-37 were rejected under 36 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Barrera et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,567,800) in view of Doyle (U.S. Patent No. 6,510,432). Applicants respectfully disagree.

Nothing in Barrera et al. teaches or suggests Applicants' system as set forth in independent Claims 1, 19 or 28, as amended. Claim 1, as amended, claims a document-based system for acquiring information pertaining to a document, the document including content information, comprising: a meta-document including the document and a set of pre-packaged document service requests based on a theme or context ("personality") associated with the document, wherein a document service comprises a process for using a portion of the document's content information as a starting point to obtain other information from a service provider pertaining to the document's content information, wherein associating a set of document service requests based on a different personality to the document content information will provide different results; and a scheduler for autonomously activating and managing the document service requests without user intervention by periodically polling the meta-document for document service requests, selecting a document service request from the set of document service requests, analyzing the document for document content information contained within the document to be exploited by the selected document service to obtain other information from a

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service provider pertaining to the document's content information, initiating and managing communication with a service provider to satisfy the selected document service request using the analyzed document content information and integrating any results from the selected document service request into the meta-document, wherein the meta-document includes the document, the set of document service requests and integrated results.

1. In Barrera et al., the user must input a topic (keyword) to be searched. In Applicants' system and method, each document service analyzes the document for document content information to be exploited by the document service to obtain other information from a service provider pertaining to the document's content information.

Barrera et al. describes a system and method for searching information stored on a network. Barrera et al.'s system is a standard search engine, in that a user selects a topic to search and the search engine returns results (in a page of a web browser). Barrera et al. is concerned with the problem of returning better results than other search engines (such as Yahoo and Alta Vista). Barrera et al. describes a system for searching websites that combines category searching with content searching. In the system of Barrera et al. the scope of a search is first narrowed by identifying websites that correspond with a category pertinent to the desired information. Next a keyword search is carryout out on the content of websites that fall within the pertinent category (see col. 2, lines 55-61).

In contrast, Applicants' system and method is document driven, in that each document service uses document content information as a starting point to obtain other information from a service provider pertaining to the document's content information. In Applicants' system and method, each document service analyzes the document for document content information contained within the document to be exploited by the selected document service to obtain other information from a service provider pertaining to the document's content information.

2. Barrera et al. teaches searching by categories. Barrera et al. does not teach a "personality."

Barrera et al. at Fig. 7 describes a user interface for searching based on category. See col. 4, line 66 - col. 5, line 16:

> FIG. 7 shows an interface for an embodiment of the present invention through which a user selects a category. Categories 701 are listed under the heading "Search by Subject."

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For example, a user selects the "Products and Services" category 702, which causes the interface shown in FIG. 8 to be displayed. The user then selects the subcategory "AT&T WorldNet.TM. Services" 801 (shown in FIG. 8), which causes the interface shown in FIG. 9 to be displayed. As shown in FIG. 9, the user then submits a search for the keyword "telephone" 901. A content search for files in which the term "telephone" occurs is performed on content (e.g., files) stored from websites that fall into the category "AT&T WorldNet.TM. Services." The results of the search are displayed to the user in one embodiment as a dynamically generated web page, such as the one shown in FIG. 10. The term "dynamically generated web page" means a web page that includes content specifically tailored to respond to the user query.

In Barrera et al., the user must select a single category and input a keyword to be searched within the chosen category. Searching via "categories" in which a user must still input a keyword to search within a particular category as taught by Barrera et al. is not the same as associating "a set of pre-packaged document service requests based on a theme or context ("personality") associated with the document", where each document service analyzes the document for document content information contained within the document to be exploited by the selected document service to obtain other information from a service provider pertaining to the document's content information.

3. Doyle is topic driven, not document driven.

Doyle teaches a system and method for archiving information from a plurality of web servers by specifying at least one topic to be searched. See col. 1, lines 41-44. Doyle is concerned with updating and archiving topical search results. Doyle teaches identifying a document associated with at least one topic and analyzing the document so as to identify characteristics of the document associated with the at least one topic associated with the document. A search may be developed based on the identified characteristics of the document so as to search for information associated with the at least one topic. See col. 2, lines 19 - 26. Documents are useful to Doyle's system only in so far as they provide additional information pertaining to the at least one topic.
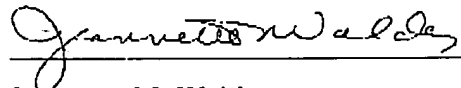
In contrast, Applicants' system and method is document-driven or document-centric. Applicants' system and method starts with a document, not a topic. All document processes originate with document content information contained in the document. All document

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processes in the set of pre-packaged document service requests based on a theme or context ("personality") associated with the document use a portion of the document's content information as a starting point to obtain other information from a service provider pertaining to the document's content information.

Claims 1, 19 or 28 are believed to be allowable over the cited reference. Claims 2-18, 20-27 and 29-37 depend from Claims 1, 19 and 28, respectively, and are also believed to be allowable over the cited references. Reconsideration of this application and allowance thereof are earnestly solicited. In the event the Examiner considers a personal contact advantageous to the disposition of this case, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned Attorney for Applicants, Jeannette Walder.

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Xerox Corporation
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Date: October 21, 2005

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